

A large, light pink rose is the central focus of the image, with its petals delicately unfurling. In the lower right corner, a string of pearls is draped across the surface, with several pearls in sharp focus, showing their lustrous texture. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light pink, creating a gentle and elegant atmosphere.

A Necklace of Pearls

selected from the life of az-Zahra Fatima al-Batul

Allah be pleased with her and please her

By as-Sayyid Muhammad bin Hasan bin 'Alawi al-Haddad

Translated by Muhammad Jawad Bagha - 2015

All Praise be to Allah Who created all things and made them to exact measure. He sent our Master Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, to all people as a bearer of good news and warning; as one who calls people to God by His leave; as a light-giving lamp. And He distinguished the household of His noble Prophet with precedence and distinction in honour and esteem of them. He said in praise of them – and as a sign and reminder to the Ummah–: *{Allah only wishes to keep uncleanness away from you, people of the [Prophet's] House, and to purify you thoroughly.}*

O Allah, send profuse prayers, peace, blessings, rank, honour and magnification perpetually, in every moment, upon our Master Muhammad, the Master of the Prophets and Messengers, and upon his pleasant and pure household and all his companions and those who follow them in goodness until the Day of Judgment.

As for what follows, these are luminous words and beautiful pearls about the Liegelady of all the women of the worlds; the mother of brilliantly blessed ones; the piece of the Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him and his family: our Liegeladyaz-Zahra (the Resplendent); the noble lady Fatima, al-Batul (the Chaste). Allah be pleased with her and please her. Upon her, after her father, be the purest and greatest of salutations.

The account of the life of our Liegeladyaz-Zahra, Allah be pleased with her, is beautiful, pleasant and lengthy. The writer stands before it bewildered of thought, incapable of expression. He doesn't know where to begin and what to say. What should

he narrate of her virtues? And what should he omit [in the interest of space]? For he is before an overflowing sea filled with precious sapphires and jewels. She has been purified in words and deeds and elevated in lineage and origin. Who is her mother? Who is her father? Who is her husband? Who are her children?

Her father is the Master of the Cosmos. The most honourable of the human and jinn. The greatest favour upon the Muslims. [He is] Allah's Mercy for all the worlds. By him, Allah saved humanity from the error of ignorance. He came to us with a Scripture inscribed. And by him, Allah brought us out of the depths of darkness and into the light. Peace, blessings, honour, nobility and magnification be upon him and his family.

Her mother is the pleasantly pure one. [The one] of glorious virtues. Lady Khadija, the Great. Allah Most Exalted be pleased with her. She achieved honour in this world and felicity in the hereafter. Allah ennobled her with the highest distinction. So He gifted her [greetings of] peace via our Master Gabriel (peace be upon him) and gave her glad-tidings of a pavilion in Paradise made of brilliant pearls, where neither toil nor fatigue exist.

Her husband is al-Imam al-Murtadha (the one Allah is pleased with). The speaker of truth in anger and pleasure. Allah's victorious lion. Our Master 'Ali bin Abi Talib. May Allah Most Exalted ennoble his face and be pleased with him.

Her sons are the two noble masters Abu Muhammad al-Hasan and Abu 'Abdillah al-Husayn. The two sweet scented flowers of the Master of the Cosmos. They are, as reported in authentic

sunnah, the two Masters of the Youth of Paradise. [Her daughters are] our Liegeladies Zaynab, Umm Kulthum and Ruqayya. Their excellence is an established fact. They have significant standing in the heart of the infallible Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him and his family. And then our Master al-Muhassin who passed away in infancy. Those are the members of her pure house; the shining stars. They are the noble and virtuous. The elect Imams. They are the stars by which the earth navigates its safety, and the ships of salvation from every trial. Allah Most Exalted be pleased with them all.

O Allah, send fragrant breezes of good pleasure upon her and aid us by the secrets You have placed in her.

O Allah, send prayers and peace upon her trustworthy father, our Master Muhammad, and upon his family and all his companions.

Our Liegelady Fatima, peace be upon her, was born in Allah's Sacred city five years before the declaration of Prophethood. The birth of this pure blossom was on the 20th of Jumad al-Akhira. On a shining Friday, her luminous face appeared. So all Praise be to Allah. Transcendent is Allah. There is no deity worthy of worship except Allah. Allah is Supreme. Her father, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, named her Fatima because Allah repelled Hell Fire from her and those who love her. Amongst her names: at-Tahira (the pure one), al-Mubaraka (the blessed one), az-Zakiyya (the sinless), al-Muhaddatha (the one addressed), as-Siddiqah (the veraciously truthful), ar-Radiya (the one well-pleased with Allāh), al-Mardiya (the one pleasing to Allāh). She is called az-Zahra because she is unquestionably the flower and splendor of the

most superior of creation. And our Liegelady, Allah be pleased with her, was titled al-Batul due to her absolute devotion to worship in deed and word. And the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, gave her a kunya (nickname) of Umm Abiha (Mother of her Father) because of her compassion and affection for him.

She grew up in the House of Prophecy, the treasure-trove of knowledge, nobility and chivalry where the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, would come and go. And the Angels and the Spirit would descend. She grew up in that excellent house upon the most exalted good character and the most beautiful traits. And how could it be otherwise when she is a graduate of the school of the one who is unequivocally the most superior of creation; who Allah sent to perfect noble character. So from him she learnt truthfulness and trustworthiness, chastity and vigilance, the Qur`an and wisdom, affection and mercy, humility and knowledge, patience and clemency. She had a natural disposition to pleasant character, prophetic traits -- Muhammadan character. Her Lord favoured her with goodness. So Allah be pleased with her and please her.

O Allah, send fragrant breezes of good pleasure upon her and aid us by the secrets You have placed in her.

O Allah, send prayers and peace upon her trustworthy father, our Master Muhammad, and upon his family and all his companions.

When she reached her eighteenth spring, the greatest of the Companions came forward to propose to her. They included our Masters Abu Bakr, `Umar and Sa'd ibn Mu'adh, Allah be pleased

with them. So he, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, turned them down beautifully and informed them that he was waiting for revelation regarding her marriage. And Allah favoured the possessor of honour and virtue: our Master Imam 'Ali bin Abi Talib, Allah ennoble his face. Before he came to the Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, to propose to our Liegeladyaz-Zahra al-Batul, Allah be pleased with her, revelation preceded him to bless this successful proposal. So our Master Imam 'Ali, Allah ennoble his face, attained his most precious and highest wish when the noble Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, said to him, "Welcome! Welcome!" And it wasn't long before the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, sent for the greatest of the Muhajirun (Emigrants) and Ansar (Helpers) to inform them of this joyous news. So when the union of this chosen couple materialized, the banners of glad-tidings appeared. And the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, gave his famous sermon, which is still recited on such occasions. He said, upon him and his family be salutations and peace: "All Praise be to Allah Who is praised by His blessing, worshipped by His power, obeyed by His sovereignty, Whose punishment and chastisement is feared, Whose Command will be done in heaven and on earth, Who created the creation by His Power, and conferred distinction on them through His sacred commandments, elevated them by His Religion and honored them with His Prophet. Verily Allah, Blessed is His Name and Sublime is His Majesty, made relationship by marriage a means for union, a command, a just decree, and comprehensive good. By it ties of kinship are closely connected and people are bound. For He the Sublime said: *{It is He who creates human beings from fluid, then makes them kin by blood and marriage: your Lord is all powerful!}* Allah's

command runs to His preordainment. And His preordainment runs to His will. And for every preordainment there is a decree. And for every decree there is an appointed time. *{For every term there is a time prescribed. Allah erases or confirms whatever He will, and the source of Scripture is with Him.}* Thereupon, verily Allah has commanded me to marry Fatima to 'Ali bin Abi Talib. So bear witness that I have married him at 400 mithqal (weights) of silver if 'Ali bin Abi Talib agrees.'

Our Master Anas bin Malik, Allah Most Exalted be pleased with him, says: "He then called for a plate of dates and placed it before us and invited us to eat. As we were eating, our Master 'Ali, Allah ennoble his face, entered. The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, smiled at him. And then said: "Verily Allah has commanded me to marry you to Fatima for 400 mithqal of silver if you agree. So he said, "I am surely pleased with that, O my Master, O Messenger of Allah! May Allah send prayers and peace upon you and your family." He then gave a sermon in which he said: 'All Praise be to Allah who is close to those who praise Him and is near to those who ask of Him. He promised Paradise to whoever fears Him and threatened Hell Fire for he who disobeys Him. I praise Him with all His Praises and Favours. And I thank Him with the thanks of one who knows that He is his Creator, his Fashioner, his Originator, the Giver of Death and the Giver of Life. I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship except Allah alone, no partner has He. A witnessing that reaches and pleases Him. And I bear witness that our Master Muhammad is His slave and Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, prayers that draw him nearer. As for what follows: Verily our gathering was ordained by Allah Most Exalted and He is pleased with it. Marriage is among what Allah has commanded and

permitted. And our Master Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, has married me to Fatima, his daughter, with a dowry of 400 mithqal of silver. And I am pleased. And Allah is witness enough.”

He then fell in prostration in gratitude and praise to Allah. When he raised his head from prostration, the Possessor of the Praiseworthy Station, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, said to him: “May Allah bless your union. And bless you both. And bring forth from you both the plentiful good.”

O what an excellent and blessed contract was witnessed by the greatest of Companions, the possessors of merit and eminence, Allah be pleased with them! In it, the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, was the guardian. The groom was Imam ‘Ali. The bride was our Liegeladyaz-Zahra of sublime rank, Allah be pleased with them both.

O Allah, send fragrant breezes of good pleasure upon her and aid us by the secrets You have placed in her.

O Allah, send prayers and peace upon her trustworthy father, our Master Muhammad, and upon his family and all his companions.

When the blessed, auspicious contract was completed, and it delighted the eyes of those who love them, our Liegeladyaz-Zahra was led in a most magnificent procession to the house of our Master Imam ‘Ali bin Abi Talib, Allah be pleased with them. The wedding procession moved with happiness and rejoicing. The women of the Muhajirun and

Ansar, Allah be pleased with them, thronged around her until they arrived with her to her exalted house adjacent to the house of her father, the Possessor of the Vast Rank. She had just taken her place in her new home beside her husband, the possessor of felicitous fortune, when the Beautiful Splendour of Muhammadan Fairness, our Master the Best of Creation, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, appeared. He came to ease his mind about them, and to offer the sweetest of congratulations. He prayed to Allah to bless them and to grant them pleasant, blessed progeny. Allah answered the supplication of His Prophet for his daughter and his representative and brought forth plentiful good from them. From them there was an extension of the holy, Prophetic lineage; every Sayyid and Sharif tracing their ancestry back to him. They and the Qur`an are in harmony; two companions that never part until they both arrive at the fountain of the Master of the Cosmos. May Allah send prayers upon him and upon his family and companions and those who follow them in good.

O Allah, send fragrant breezes of good pleasure upon her and aid us by the secrets You have placed in her.

O Allah, send prayers and peace upon her trustworthy father, our Master Muhammad, and upon his family and all his companions.

When the couple had settled in their new home close to the Possessor of Praiseworthy Character, our Master the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, days passed them in happiness and agreement. And though it was not a luxurious and opulent life, it was happy and blissful. In the third year after the hijra (migration), they joyfully welcomed

their first child, our Master al-Hasan, Allah be pleased with them. The joyous glad tidings were brought to the Chosen Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him and his family. So he quickly came to him and held him up gazing keenly at him. His heart brimmed with joy. [The newborn] resembled our Master the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, not our Master 'Ali, Allah ennoble his face. And the first sound that reached his ears after he was born was the voice of his grandfather, the Master of the Cosmos, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, elegantly reciting the Adhan (call to Prayer) in his ear. Before he had completed two years, our Liegeladyaz-Zahra gave birth to his brother, our Master al-Husayn, Allah be pleased with them.

The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, rejoiced in these two blessed boys and his eyes were cooled by them. And Allah Most Generous Most High had willed that the progeny of our Master the Chosen one, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, be from our Liegelady Fatima and our Master 'Ali: from their two sons al-Hasanayn, the sweet scented flowers of the Master of the Cosmos. Allah Most Exalted be pleased with them. Our Master the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, did not stop visiting them every now and then. They would gather around him joyfully. What an excellent and splendid assembly and noble gathering! (Sitting) at its fore is our Master the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him and his family. Our Master 'Ali on his right. Our Liegelady Fatima on his left. And our Master al-Hasan and our Master al-Husayn in his lap. It is as Allah willed. There is no power except by Allah. So upon them all -- after our noble Prophet -- be the most superior of salutations and the most perfect of peace.

O Allah, send fragrant breezes of good pleasure upon her and aid us by the secrets You have placed in her.

O Allah, send prayers and peace upon her trustworthy father, our Master Muhammad, and upon his family and all his companions.

From her pure character and her pleasing qualities is that generosity and preferring others over herself was second nature to her. And likewise her husband possessed generosity and openhandedness. Thus, they lived together in harmony. And their share of bliss was ample. *{The righteous will have a drink mixed with kafur.}* Their manner of giving preference to others is [so] exemplary, that Allah mentioned in His Book their fulfillment of the vow and their feeding others out of love for Him and seeking His reward. They preferred the poor, the orphan, and the captive over themselves. Allah Most Exalted said in praise, honour and respect for them: *{They give food, however great be their need for it, with pleasure to the poor, and to the orphan, and to the captive.}* They gave in charity both their food for breaking and closing the fast and continued the fast remaining steadfast to their vow. And they said in sincerity and truthfulness, not deceit and falsehood, *{‘We feed you for the sake of Allah alone: We seek neither recompense nor thanks from you.’}*

They made every earnest effort to do good works and seized every available opportunity for obedience, and they transacted with Allah. So their transaction was profitable. And what they said became a reminder: *{‘We surely fear the Day of our*

Lord—a woefully grim Day.’}

They perfected their deeds in gratitude to Allah for His blessings and seeking an increase in His bounty and favours. And their hearts filled with fear of Allah and hope in Him. They entreated their Lord to grant them safety from the Great Terror and to multiply their reward. *{So Allah will save them from the woes of that Day, give them radiance and gladness.}*

They feared Allah in this world. So He reassured them about the hereafter and made them of the people of radiant faces who will gaze at their Lord. Of bliss, He prepared for them what no eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has conceived. And a caller called out to them with what fills the heart with joy: *{"This is what has been (prepared) for you as a reward, and your efforts have been recognized and accepted."}*

O Allah, send fragrant breezes of good pleasure upon her and aid us by the secrets You have placed in her.

O Allah, send prayers and peace upon her trustworthy father, our Master Muhammad, and upon his family and all his companions.

When Allah perfected this religion by His Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, and completed the blessing upon the believers, and ennobled them with a clear opening, the Quranic verse was revealed: *{Today I have perfected your religion for you, completed My blessing upon you, and chosen as your religion Islam.}* In this verse was an indication that this loyal Prophet, peace and blessings be upon

him and his family, would soon pass to his Lord. Its revelation was in the Farewell Hajj. He used to say to his noble companions during that Hajj: "Take from me your rights for perhaps I will not meet you after this year."

So only a short time had passed after his return from Makka when he felt the pain of an illness. The Muslims assumed the illness which had come about suddenly would go away. All except our Liegelady Fatima, Allah Most Exalted be pleased with her. She was frightened and alarmed by it. His illness caused fear and unrest to grip her until she felt as though her heart had burst. So she hurried to him, uneasy, frightened. He saw her approaching and became cheerful at meeting her saying: "Welcome, my daughter!" He sat her on his right and whispered something to her and she wept. Then he whispered again and she laughed. He whispered to her that his departure was close so she wept in fear of separation. And he whispered to her that she would be the first of his family to join him. So she smiled in happiness at the meeting.

The Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, passed on to the Supreme Friend and she mourned him with grief that did not go away. She stood at his holy place saying in a frightful state of unrest:

*The sky's horizons have become dust-coloured and the day's sun
has folded up and the morning and evening have grown dark
So the earth after the Prophet is melancholy, lamenting him,
frequently quaking
Let the East mourn him, and the West, and let Muḍar and all of
Yemen mourn him
And let the mighty mountain mourn him and let the draped*

*House mourn him
O Seal of the Messengers! –blessed is your light –
May the Revealer of the Qur’ān send salutations upon you.*

She also said after taking a handful of soil from his tomb and taking pleasure in its fragrance:

*What does it harm one who has smelt the dust of the tomb of
Aḥmad
To never for the rest of time smell perfumes?
Calamities have been poured upon me
Had they been poured upon the days they would have turned to
nights.
Say to the concealed one in his resting place
If you hear my cries and calls
I was in the safe haven of Muhammad
Not fearing wrong, and it was beautiful
If the moon cries in its night
In sorrow over a branch, I weep in the morning.*

And she once said at his resting place:

*We surely miss you the way the earth misses its downpour
And since your absence revelation and scripture ceased
So if only before you death had found us
When your passing was announced and the earth separated us*

Then she returned to her house mournful and in pain. Thereafter, she was never seen smiling until her soul went to her Creator six months after her father’s passing, peace and blessings be upon him and his family. She was buried in al-Baqi’ according to the soundest of two reports. And it was also

said that she was buried in her house next to the chamber of her father, the Master of the Cosmos, peace and blessings be upon him and his family. Our Master 'Ali, Allah ennoble his face, stood at her grave recalling her loyalty and dutifulness. He said in grief and humility as his eyes shed tears:

*I see the maladies of this world upon me as many
And their possessor until death is sick
For every coming together of two intimate friends there comes a
separation
And those upon the earth are few
And verily my missing Fatima after Ahmad
A sign that a friend does not last*

He would visit her frequently. And at her grave, Allah be pleased with them, he said with tears overflowing and a chest wrapped in sorrow:

*A beloved no beloved equals to
In my heart there is no share for other than her
A beloved absent from my eyes and body
But from my heart my beloved is never absent*

Her passing away was on Monday the 2nd of Ramadhan in the 11th year after Prophetic hijra, upon the Prophet and his family be the most superior prayers and peace and the purest salutations. Her age at that time was 28 lunar years. And it is also said 30 years. The judgment belongs to Allah, Most Generous, the All-Transcendent. And Praise be to Allah in every state.

O Allah, send fragrant breezes of good pleasure upon her and aid us by the secrets You have placed in her.

O Allah, send prayers and peace upon her trustworthy father, our Master Muhammad, and upon his family and all his companions.

Allah had distinguished this dutiful, pious one who was well pleased with Allah and well pleasing to Him, with numerous special qualities and unique distinctions. From amongst her special qualities is that she is the piece, flesh and branch of the Chosen One, peace and blessings be upon him and his family. What pleases her pleases him. What upsets her upsets him. What annoys her annoys him. And this is sufficient glory and high rank for her. So whoever makes her angry has made the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, angry. And whoever pleases her has certainly pleased him.

And from her special qualities as related in authentic sunnah is that she is the leader of all the women in Paradise. And in another narration from the Seal of Prophets, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, he said, "Are you not pleased to be the leader of the believing women?"

And from her special qualities is that she was the most beloved of his family to him and occupied the highest place of them in his eyes. When she approached, he met her in warm welcome and received her with a wide smile and generosity. And he sat her as a beloved sits their beloved.

And among her special qualities which made her unique from all women is that she never had menstrual or post-natal bleeding. Due to this, she never missed a prayer from the night it was made obligatory.

And from her special qualities is that she, her husband and two sons, Allah be pleased with them, are the household of the pure Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, whom Allah distinguished specially with dazzling glory. He said in eternal praise of them and honour and respect: *{Allah only wishes to keep uncleanness away from you, people of the [Prophet's] House, and to purify you thoroughly.}*

And from her special qualities is that whoever is connected to her by association or lineage has an unbreakable bond to the Master of the Arabs and non-Arabs. The one upon whom Qur`an was revealed in an Arabic tongue, our Master Muhammad, the Imam of every Messenger and Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, said: "Every lineage and means will be severed on the Day of Judgment except my lineage and my means."

And from her special qualities is that Allah barred her progeny from the Fire. For it has been related from the Chosen Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, that Fatima guarded her chastity, so Allah forbade the Fire from touching her progeny. And from her special qualities of which there is no doubt, is that she, of all people, resembled her father the most in conduct, manner, speech and gait.

And from her special qualities is that she does not become hungry by the blessing of her father's answered supplication. For when he saw her frequent state of hunger was having a severe effect on her, he, profuse peace and blessings be upon him and his family, said, "O Allah, the Satisfier of hunger and Fulfiller of needs and Exalter of the humble, do not let Fatima daughter of Muhammad be hungry." She, Allah Most Exalted be pleased with her, said, "I was never hungry thereafter."

And from her special qualities is that Allah distinguished her husband with clear excellence and established rank. The Master of Messengers, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, said to her: "Your husband is a leader in this world, and he is surely among the righteous in the Hereafter."

And from her special qualities is the display of her excellence to all people on the Last Day. A caller will call out: "O People! Lower your gazes because Fāṭima is crossing the Bridge." Allah Most Exalted be pleased with her and please her.

O Allah, send fragrant breezes of good pleasure upon her and aid us by the secrets You have placed in her.

O Allah, send prayers and peace upon her trustworthy father, our Master Muhammad, and upon his family and all his companions.

In the meadows of this perfumed life story, in the courtyard of her luminous school, we take some lessons by which the hearts are made tranquil and the souls are refined. We select three sublime lessons which will be a guiding light for the

Muhammadan ummah. So listen well to these lessons and be alert. For verily they are broadcast on the channel: *{Whatever the Messenger gives you accept it willingly, and whatever he forbids you, abstain from it.}*

The first of these lessons derived from the life of our Liegelady Fatima, daughter of the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, is taking the example of her noble traits and beautiful character. And from the most manifest of these is a pure heart and a restrained tongue. Her tongue does not run wrongfully nor does it utter anything other than the truth. She protected her tongue from ugly diseases. No lies or back-biting or slander. Truthful in her speech. Truthful in her actions. Our Liegelady'Aisha, Allah Most Exalted be pleased with her, said in praise of her truthfulness, "I have never seen anyone more truthful than Fatima other than her father, peace and blessings be upon him and his family." And how can that not be so when she has received from her father, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, the most superior of character and the most beautiful of etiquette. *{Can someone who knows that the revelation from your Lord is the Truth be equal to someone who is blind? Only those with understanding will take it to heart.}*

The second lesson we give as a gift to fathers and mothers which is to inspect the states of their sons and daughters and direct them to good works. Despite what Imam al-Murtadha and Fatima ar-Rida, Allah Most Exalted be pleased with both of them, had of knowledge and certainty and adhering to the Religion and firmness upon it and calling to it, whenever the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, passed by the door of our Liegelady Fatima, Allah Most Exalted be pleased with her, as he went for the Fajr Prayer, he would say, "The

Prayer, O People of the House! *{Allah only wishes to keep uncleanness away from you, people of the [Prophet's] House, and to purify you thoroughly.}*" So for us there is an excellent role model in the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, to urge to good works. And likewise there is an example in the Prophetic household of obedience and compliance. So O fathers and mothers, be mindful of Allah regarding your children; your flesh and blood. Order them to good works so that they get accustomed to these and grow up on them and love them. For indeed a person grows up on what his father accustomed him to. And by that they live a felicitous life, with no ruin and sorrow as a reward from Allah. *{With Allah lies the best reward.}*

The third lesson we gift to believing, devout, vigilant women. This is that they should be cautious of the dangers around them. They should be wary of the call of those who stray from good character and religion, those who make immodesty and rebellion of the religion and etiquette seem attractive. They should listen attentively with retentive hearts to this question which the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, posed to his learned daughter Lady Fatima, Allah Most Exalted be pleased with her. He asked her what is best for a woman? She responded with a statement which narrators continue to relay. "That she not see a [strange] man nor [let] a [strange] man see her." So he, peace and blessings be upon him and his family, was made happy by this useful, enriching answer. He embraced her and said Fatima is but a part of me. By this she had created for the believing woman a secure plan that would prevent her from being tempted or being a temptation for others. So pay close attention to the question and answer. And know by that you will be successful with the best reward. *{Those*

who believe and do righteous deeds: joy awaits these, and their final homecoming will be excellent.}

And here the pen stops its attempt at the impossible. For how can it possibly encompass all the pearls of the vast ocean? For the virtues of our Liegeladyaz-Zahra, Allah Most Exalted be pleased with her, and the lessons in her excellent life are a deep, shoreless sea which extends from the ocean of her father, our Master Muhammad, Allah's prayers, peace, glory and magnification be upon him and his family. And this [brief narrative] is sufficient for one whom Allah has decreed guidance. And by this is the brief arrangement of a necklace of pearls from the life of the sublime noble Lady Fatima az-Zahra al-Batul. Whatever was correct in it was from Allah. I praise and thank Him. And whatever was a mistake was from me. I repent to Allah and seek His forgiveness. A person [sometimes] makes mistakes and is [sometimes] correct. And Allah forgives and rewards. My success in my task depends on Allah alone. In Him have I put my trust, and to Him do I always turn.

O Allah, send fragrant breezes of good pleasure upon her and aid us by the secrets You have placed in her.

O Allah, send prayers and peace upon her trustworthy father, our Master Muhammad, and upon his family and all his companions.